## HB #6797

I have been a practicing naturopathic physician in Connecticut for 14 years. I was trained in Oregon where ND's have prescriptive authority. I enjoy working here in Connecticut and have been able to help my patients with the tools available to me including diet, lifestyle changes, and nonprescription supplements and herbs. However, my ability to help my patients is limited by the outdated licensing law here in Connecticut.

Each time I see a patient with something as routine as a urinary tract infection, strep throat or low thyroid function I have to send that patient to another physician for treatment. This is despite being trained to utilize standard prescriptive protocols which are part of the naturopathic physician's license in other states. We could lower health care costs and the burden to the patient by allowing ND's in Connecticut to practice to the full extent of their training. Please support adding prescriptive authority to our license.

Sincerely, Christine Louden 9 Soby Drive West Hartford, CT 06107 860 561 4686 christinelouden@att.net